

Testimony to the Transportation Committee

February 28, 2014

HB 5288 - AN ACT CONCERNING CHEMICAL ROAD TREATMENTS

The South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority (RWA) is a non-profit, public corporation and political subdivision of the state. Our mission is to provide high quality water at a reasonable cost while promoting the preservation of watershed land and aquifers. We serve some 430,000 customers in the region. The source of this water is a system of watershed and aquifer areas that cover about 120 square miles within 24 municipalities. Much of our 27,000 acres of land is managed for watershed protection, timber resource conservation, wildlife habitat, open space, education, and research.

The South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, (RWA), appreciates the opportunity to provide comments to the Transportation Committee in support of Raised House Bill 5288 - **AN ACT CONCERNING CHEMICAL ROAD TREATMENTS**.

An analysis of the corrosive effects of chemical road treatments on vehicles, infrastructure and the environment would provide useful information about how to minimize the impact of chemical road treatments on water quality, the environment and public health.

Chemical road treatments may compromise and impact water quality by entering water resources through storm drains, runoff or by infiltration to groundwater. There is an increased concern about the corrosive impact of chemical road treatments on the actual water system infrastructure, including distribution pipes, intake valves, fire hydrants and other critical infrastructure. In addition, we request that the scope of the study include water system infrastructure and evaluate any alternative road treatment techniques and products.

Thank you for considering the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority's comments. If you have additional questions please contact, Lori Vitagliano, RWA Government Relations Specialist at 203-401-2720 or lvitagliano@rwater.com